

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MOUNTBELLEW**
County : **GALWAY**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 16-06-99

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	38
The Built Environment	40	31	29
Landscaping	40	31	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	22	28
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	29
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	221	221

Mountbellew, County Galway

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

With a committee of 40 there is obviously great commitment towards the competition. Your comments regarding your difficulty with small villages has been noted and will be passed on. The Malt House was photographed in relation to the new shop-front award. Good to see that you are getting co-operation from individuals, local, county and State bodies.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Mountbellew as a thriving market town looks prosperous and has very little dereliction. Even the old garage in the square could be preserved and its antique petrol pump restored? The Old Forge is excellent (I pumped the bellows), but the fluorescent lighting is very harsh. Better signposting is needed for this facility.

LANDSCAPING

This is a feature of the town and immediately attracts the eye.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

What opportunities exist vis-a-vie the lake, river and surrounding woodlands. Not many towns have this potential. The deer farm near the forge was a bonus and nice to see the young deer through the openings in the wall.

LITTER CONTROL

The awareness of the committee to this problem is appreciated and the town centre was relatively free of litter, but the magical area of the Leisure Park was marred by an abundance of litter scattered on the ground, litter bins full, one upturned. Sadly the litter took away from all the hard work that has gone into this area. The lake when cleaned should be a great asset. This area was checked again two days later and there was no improvement regarding the litter situation.

TIDINESS

Mountbellew looks tidy, but again the river and the streams in the Leisure Park had an abundance of weeds and debris. While the Maxol station was well kept, the adjacent grounds are very rough and also the entrance and parking area of the G.A.A. could be vastly improved. The graveyard was well maintained, good paths between the graves, but the gates need repainting. The bottle bank area was tidy. It was noted that black bags of rubbish were stacked beside the litter bin and phone boxes in the square. Is this a collection point?

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Mountbellew has some lovely houses and both individual homes and those in the estate were generally well maintained.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads were all well surfaced, have well trimmed verges, are weed free and look well. The Square has improved and will be better after proposed work.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

It is obvious that the people are working together to maximise the potential of the town. Very good first impression. Keep up the good work and do not be discouraged too much by the drop in marks in the litter control section.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (05/08/99)

Litter control was still a distinct problem on second adjudication day. Quite a lot was evident on the Tuam Road, in the town centre and in particular to the laneway leading down to the park. A bin was dumped in the water in this latter location. Perhaps the recycling bins on the Galway approach could be relocated or more successfully screened from public view. The gable wall adjacent to the access to the park appeared quite grubby with green algae growth. Most of the buildings on the square looked extremely well and the hanging baskets to the bridge were greatly admired. Some of the litter bins appeared to be quite grubby and indeed that outside Supervision was full almost to overflowing. The pink national school and Franciscan Brothers Agricultural College both looked magnificent – the latter with its wonderfully maintained grounds.